

REMARKS

Claims 28-31 are presented for consideration, with Claims 28 and 29 being independent.

Claims 13-18 and 20-27 have been cancelled and replaced with new Claims 28-31. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification. In one example, Figures 10A and 10B and the accompanying description beginning on page 10, line 22 of the specification disclose a melted seal bonding material between opposing surfaces of a frame and a substrate.

In the Office Action, Claims 24-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for the reasons discussed on pages 2 and 3. This rejection is deemed to be moot in view of the cancellation of Claims 24-27. It is submitted that Claims 28-31 are in full compliance with the particularity and distinctness requirements of the statute.

All of the previously presented claims, i.e., Claims 13-18 and 20-27, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and/or §103 for being unpatentable over one or more cited references. Without conceding to the propriety of these rejections, the cancellation of Claims 13-18 and 20-27 renders these rejections moot.

It is submitted that Claims 28-31 are patentable over the cited art.

In Claim 28, a method of manufacturing an image display apparatus having display devices and an airtight container containing the display devices includes a step of bonding a substrate to a frame for forming an airtight space together with the substrate through a

seal bonding material containing a low melting point metal. The step of bonding includes a step of providing a seal bonding material along a corner between the frame and the substrate formed by setting the frame and the substrate to abut on each other, and a step of heating the seal bonding material to a temperature equal to or higher than a temperature at which the seal bonding material can perform bonding of the substrate to the frame, successively along the corner. As claimed, the seal bonding material melted by the heating is introduced between opposing surfaces of the frame and the substrate.

Claim 29 relates to a method of manufacturing an image display apparatus having display devices and an airtight container containing the display devices, and includes the steps of bonding a substrate to a frame for forming an airtight space together with the substrate through a seal bonding material containing a low melting point metal. The step of bonding includes a step of supplying the seal bonding material, heated to a temperature equal to or higher than a temperature at which the seal bonding material can perform bonding of the substrate to the frame, successively along a corner between the frame and the substrate formed by setting the frame and the substrate to abut on each other. As in Claim 28, the seal bonding material melted by the heating is introduced between opposing surfaces of the frame and the substrate.

In accordance with Applicants' claimed invention, a high performance image display apparatus can be manufactured.

A number of the patents relied upon in the Office Action were previously discussed in Applicants' Amendment of April 19, 2007, and those comments are incorporated

herein by reference. These citations include Vrijssen '673, Veerasamy '242, Haven '681, Wang '281, Misonou '610, Minaai '733 and Wang '321.

In the Office Action (page 4, paragraph 1), Vrijssen is asserted to include a step of penetrating a low melting point substance between a substrate and member by heating the low point substance, citing Figure 2, and column 2, lines 32-35. In Vrijssen, however, there is no showing or disclosure of the indium seal 9 between opposing surfaces of the window 2 and flange 7.

With respect to Haven, there is no teaching or suggestion of providing a seal bonding material, i.e., solder deposits 91, between opposing surfaces of the glass sheets.

In Wang '281, spacers 5 are embedded between substrates 2 and 3, and thus the substrates do not abut each other.

The Yoshikazu (JP '903) citation relates to a display device that includes a frame member 1, a face plate 13 and a rear plate 4. A sealing agent 2 containing low melting point frit glass is applied to weld the frame and the face plate. There is no teaching or suggestion, however, the sealing agent is provided along a corner and introduced between opposite sides of the frame and the substrate.

The remaining citations similarly fail to teach or suggest salient features of Applicants' invention as set forth in Claims 28 and 29.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 28 and 29 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 30

and 31 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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